

The Times-Dispatch

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1910.

PENANCE FOR THE PRESS.

In its report of the meeting of the Methodist Conference held on Thursday The Times-Dispatch attributed to Mr. John P. Branch language which Dr. James Cannon at Friday's session declared was a grave and untrue reflection on his character. Saturday morning The Times-Dispatch gave a full statement of all the circumstances surrounding that incident with the intention of making it plain that Mr. Branch did not intend to cast any imputation whatsoever on Dr. Cannon.

In this review was published Mr. Branch's denial that he had ever used the language attributed to him, though other members of the conference understood Mr. Branch to say substantially what The Times-Dispatch reported as occurring. Especially was it brought out that no offense had been intended by the speaker, and that the action of the reporter had been merely the impartial transcript of an unbiased onlooker. This should have closed the incident. But not so. Eager to sniff offense where none existed, and hasting to save his morbid egotism by striking a trustworthy and honorable writer with the weapon of a public rebuke, Dr. Cannon yesterday supported and abetted, if he did not cause to be introduced, a series of resolutions deliberately intended to affront, harm and discredit the man and the paper at which they were leveled.

Dr. Cannon knows that no injury was meant or done him, and The Times-Dispatch would not for any consideration deprive him or the public of the fullest acknowledgment of this fact. But the readers of this paper are also entitled to know that the resolutions excluding The Times-Dispatch from the floor of the Methodist Conference, a step never before taken with regard to this paper, or any paper in our knowledge, are a gratuitous and unworthy exhibition of the power and vanity of the Rev. James Cannon, D. D.

THE DOCTOR AND HIS WICKED PARTNER.

The Outlook is lymanabotting about the elections on Tuesday, and explains how it happened in a wholly satisfactory way to itself. It reads almost like a page from the Rollo Books and must make a deep impression upon the intelligence of the country. The object of the Outlook appears to be a shifting of the responsibility from the general cause of the Republican Waterloo to a variety of agencies so that the responsibility shall be spread out very thin. The high cost of living, the control of tariff revision by the special interests, the corruption and hypocritical pretenses in certain influential Republican circles, "the alliance between the special interests and the Republican oligarchy," the division of the Republicans between the insurgents and the regulars, the freedom of the Democrats from the traditions of Cleveland and the personality of Bryan, are some of the causes which, in the opinion of the Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Lyman Abbott, combined to upset the party in power. Dr. Abbott does not think that the "jack-o'-lantern bugaboo of Mr. Roosevelt's imagined monarchical ambitions cut any considerable figure in the election," and holds to this view, because, as he expresses it, "the greatest falling off in the Republican vote was in the State of Pennsylvania, where his voice was not once heard in the campaign." This, in the opinion of Dr. Abbott, "is significant, if not conclusive, upon the point." In the circumstances, a poor reason is better than none, but it is worth noting, following the line of Dr. Abbott's reasoning, that wherever his voice was heard there was Democratic victory.

In New York State, where he lives and where Dr. Abbott's magazine is published, there has not been a Democratic Governor since 1893. In Massachusetts, where his voice was heard, there has not been a Democratic Governor since 1892. In Connecticut, where his voice was heard, there has not been a Democratic Governor since 1892. In Ohio, where his voice was heard, repeatedly, until the election of Governor Harmon in 1895 there had been only one other Democratic Governor from 1897 down to this present year of Grace. In Indiana, where his voice was heard, and in Iowa, and wherever his voice was heard, it was sufficient to drive thousands of Republicans to the support of the Democratic candidates. The pity of it is that his voice was not heard in Pennsylvania. Had it been, that State also would have been redeemed from Republican misrule.

We are very well satisfied with the results obtained for the Democracy through the active efforts of the Contributing Editor to the general result. It was to be expected, of course, that Dr. Abbott, whose professional gift at splitting hairs is acknowledged

throughout the country, should seek to make it appear that his associate was in no sense the chief, or even a contributing cause, to the Republican Waterloo on Tuesday.

PRACTICAL UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

Years of fine service to the educational interests of this city and State have fastened the name of Dr. Samuel Chiles Mitchell in the grateful regard of all Richmond people who knew the genuine quality of his work. For a little more than two years he has been president of the University of South Carolina, where rich fruits have crowned his labors. Taking a small college of the fine old Southern type, he has breathed into it the spirit of the modern American university and has built it up as only a master-workman in education can. Its enrollment has been powerfully increased, new schools have been opened, new buildings have arisen in barren places, and the institution has prospered materially and spiritually. Dr. Mitchell has been the genius who has wrought these changes, and he has been a missionary to the people, going through all parts of the State and awakening the people to an appreciation of the fact that the State university is of them, by them, and for them.

One of the effective features which have been introduced are the University Extension Courses, which are designed to inform the students and the people generally on varied and important subjects. Last year this course was immensely popular; this year it is to be enlarged and made of even greater service to the people. There are thirty-four popular lectures to which admission is free. Members of the faculty will deliver these lectures and will bring to them the best of their scholarship. Here are some of the subjects which will be discussed: "The Foremost Figure in the French Revolution"; "Insects and Their Relation to Disease"; "Present Day Spain"; "Present Progress in Rural Schools"; "Municipal Educational Movements"; "Mark Twain." Then there are six courses in Italian opera interpreted by a very learned musician on the violin, ranging from "The Barber of Seville" to "Madame Butterfly." There are thirteen lectures on the pedagogy of the Sunday school which constitute a practical education in such work, taking in almost every phase of such work.

In addition to this, there are three special classes for which a small admission fee is charged. These are: Night classes in commercial law, elementary French, and English literature; a course in the Victorian Poets and a correspondence course in English.

These courses simply signify that the State University is lending a strong hand to the people, enabling them to come into touch with liberal culture and higher education. After all, is not the State university but the servant of all the people of the State?

THE COMING OF TAFT.

President Taft will be in Richmond on the morning of Wednesday, November 23. The special purpose of his visit will be to make an address to the Virginia Educational Conference. He will come to Richmond at the invitation of the Conference. Committees have been appointed to arrange for his reception and entertainment while here.

The shortness of his stay in Richmond will prevent anything like elaborate entertainment, and it is proposed, therefore, that he shall receive only a genuine Virginia welcome, without much ceremony. So far as the plans have been made, they contemplate the reception of the President at the railroad station by a committee of twenty-five or more representative citizens, who will escort him to the Governor's Mansion, where he and his immediate party will be entertained by Governor and Mrs. Mann at breakfast. After breakfast the President will be taken on a visit to the battlefields around Richmond, and will be returned to luncheon at the Jefferson Hotel at 2 o'clock, and after luncheon will address the Educational Conference at the Auditorium, at half-past 3 or 4 o'clock. It is understood that the President will wish to leave Richmond upon the conclusion of his speech to the Conference, and that he will depart from this city by a regular or special train over the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, so as to reach Washington as early on the night of the 23rd as may be practicable.

The special committee charged with the financing of the President's entertainment wish to make the luncheon not an elaborate affair, but in every way creditable to the city and an honor to the city's distinguished guest. It is proposed that the luncheon shall be served to about two hundred subscribers, and it is hoped that there will be an immediate response to the invitation of the committee. The luncheon will be by subscription only, and we cannot believe that there is any gentleman in Richmond who would not be pleased to take part in it.

HENRY STUART.

We have not yet given up hope that Henry Stuart has been elected to Congress from the Ninth District. That is the reason we have not expressed our regret at his failure of election. We believe that he was elected—that is to say, that a majority of the bona fide voters in the Ninth District were cast for him—and it is hoped that a sufficient number of irregularities will be discovered in the district to justify the judges of the election in certifying that he received a majority of the votes cast and the State in issuing a commission to him. If the returns, so far reported, have been correct, however, and Mr. Stuart has lost by a majority of only 150 or 200 votes, he deserves the thanks of all the people of Virginia for the magnificent fight he made, not for himself, because he did not care to enter this contest, but for his party and for the cause of good government and capable representation at Washington. There has been nothing like it, certainly, in the recent history of Virginia, and if it shall prove to be the case that Stuart has lost, his ability as a leader and his strength in debate and his courage in facing fearful odds richly entitle him to higher honor at the hands of his people and State.

LOWER COURT JUDGES.

The expedition which marked the course of the Crippen trial has afforded the text for a thousand editorial comments on the superiority of English justice and its methods over those which obtain in this country. Within four days this famous criminal was tried and sentenced in England, while if he had been tried here it might have been a matter of as many years.

Judge John D. Lawson, dean of the law school of the Missouri State University, has just returned from England. For many months he has been in that country making an extended study of the criminal procedure in its courts. He has personally attended these courts and has observed their working carefully and critically. Judge Lawson's study has convinced him that our courts are a century behind those of England, so far as criminal procedure is concerned. The expedition which characterizes the conduct of trials in an English court was astonishing to him, and he says that "American practices leading to interminable delays and repeated postponements of cases are not known and would not be permitted if attempted." He further notes that "Judges of the English courts are men of the highest type and are well paid." Jurists who occupy positions similar to those of our Circuit Judges receive a salary of from \$12,000 to \$15,000 a year. Members of the municipal bench dealing with minor criminal matters receive a salary of about \$7,500. "Positions on the bench in England give social prestige, and they are prized by some of the best legal minds in the country."

In these very facts are to be found the reasons for the superior efficiency of the English courts over those of the United States. The position of circuit judge here is not looked upon with half the respect that attaches to the office of a judge of an insignificant municipal court in England, and it is correspondingly less sought by that type of men found on the English circuits. Rare, indeed, is the instance in the United States where political influence is not the controlling factor in the claims of the average circuit judge to his position. In establishing his compensation and in making provision for the maintenance of his court the Legislature assumes always that he is a person of not very great importance. By every subtle influence which the bar and the public and the higher courts can bring to bear, he is made to feel that all he says and does is subject to the superior judgment of the higher court. Little account is taken of the fact that in the necessities and demands of his daily work he requires a larger knowledge of law and a keener and quicker perception of legal questions than are required by his more respected and more carefully chosen superiors of the appellate bench. He is repeatedly made to feel that he occupies an inferior position.

In other words, in the United States, as a rule, we do not make the remuneration of the lower bench such that the best type of lawyers can aspire to it, and the minimum of dignity which is accorded to judges of these courts falls to appeal to men who otherwise might be tempted to seek to fill the judicial office. In our system, the judge and the law are equally responsible for the slow and unjustifiable criminal procedure.

THE BRUTALITY OF A BLUE-STOCKING.

Miss Lotta Clark, of Boston, who evidently hankers for admission to the New England brain trust, has just come out with the declaration that Santa Claus must go. About a thousand before her have made the same suggestion, but since she is from the Hub of the Universe she must, of course, be described as "original." Miss Clark, who probably lectures once a month on Ethical Thought on the fifteenth floor of a cheap tenement building on Washington Street, proposes that Santa Claus be relegated to the ash heap and that a figure of Benjamin Franklin should take his place. Here is what she says:

"Why should children flock around the road-side, tawdry images of Santa Claus when a representation of Benjamin Franklin, for instance, would be much more real to them? The children know that Santa Claus is only a myth, and, after all, they don't want what is artificial."

What does Miss Clark know about the desires of small children? Apparently, she has no children of her own. Those who advise about children ought to know something about them.

Benjamin Franklin for dear old Santa! Never! Santa was an institution when Ben Franklin was undreamed of. Besides, who was Ben Franklin that he should be put up for the affection and admiration of small children, anyway? Why Franklin, any more than a hundred or so other worthies of his age and faith?

No, let Santa Claus alone. Ben Franklin can never supplant him in the child heart. The tender sentiment of generations has been entwined about Santa and will always be, despite the press-agent tricks of iconoclastic Bostonians!

THE GOOD BOOK.

Dr. W. D. Weatherford delivered an eloquent appeal before the State Student Convention of the Young Men's Christian Association some days ago,

his plea being for the promotion of the study of the Bible. Among other things, he said that men in all walks of life have a great advantage if they know this Book of Books. Two speeches he cited as instances of the recognition of its value by great men. A United States Senator, he said, made a twenty minutes' speech recently in which he made nineteen references to the Bible, while William J. Bryan once quoted Scripture eight times in ten minutes. It might be added that the speech which won Mr. Bryan his first nomination for the Presidency had a biblical reference in its terse climax.

There can be no doubt that there is, indeed, too great apathy toward the reading and studying of this masterpiece of all the ages. In various parts of the country, questions have been put to classes which revealed great ignorance of the Bible. Dr. Lyman Abbott has recently added some illuminating evidence, sustaining the contention that the Bible is too little read.

A few years ago Dr. Abbott was speaking on political reform in a large city of this country. Many prominent citizens were on the platform. Dr. Abbott took up the pocket Bible which he carries with him, saying: "I have here an old book which is a favorite with me." From it he read the parable of the trees from the Book of Judges. When he had concluded, two gentlemen on the platform asked Dr. Abbott the title of the book from which he had read. One was a judge in one of the State courts.

Further, Dr. Abbott declares, that he knows a teacher who taught geography to a class of pupils who belong to cultivated and church-going families. She asked her class once if they could recall any celebrated historical incident connected with Egypt. There was no answer. She then hinted that the Jews came out of Egypt and tried to recall the story of Joseph. None could give any account of either of these biblical incidents. One came to the teacher and asked her what the Bible had to do with geography.

A teacher in a Church Sunday school class taught a class of girls, who were the daughters of church-going parents and had been in the Sunday school for some years. The teacher asked this class why Pharaoh sought to kill Moses. The reply was that Pharaoh tried to put to death all the babies at the time of the birth of Christ. With one exception, the class agreed with this reply.

Some years ago two women in a town in the West went to see the cantata of "Queen Esther." One said to the other, "That was a very beautiful story; I wonder where the composer found it?" The other woman said she didn't know.

These instances might be multiplied indefinitely. We have never understood why the Bible should be left out of the curriculum of hundreds of colleges in this country. Perhaps it has been for fear that the teacher of such a course would unconsciously reflect denominationalism. The Bible as literature ought to be studied in every English department in all of the colleges and universities, and we know of a good many colleges where more reading of the Bible would teach the student more English and more about literary style than the whole course as now given.

REST.

(Selected for The Times-Dispatch.)

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls."—Matthew 11: 28, 29.

Few, perhaps, ever read these words of Christ without being impressed by their singular adaptation to the necessities of our nature. We can read them again and again, and find them ever fresh and beautiful and new. No man can ever read them without being conscious that they realize the very inmost need of his being. Christ has struck the very keynote of our nature in offering us rest.

Modern systems, like ancient ones of philosophy, science, and even theology, occupy themselves with the thought that "happiness is our being's end and aim." But it is not so that our Redeemer teaches. His words are such as these: "In the world ye shall have—not happiness, but—tribulation; but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world." "In Me ye shall have peace." Not happiness, the outward well-being so called in the world, but the inward rest which cometh from above. And He alone who made this promise had a right to say, "Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls." If we turn to the history of Christ we find repose characterizing His whole existence. For example, first, in the marriage feast at Cana in Galilee. He did not look upon that festivity with cynical asperity; He did not frown upon the innocent joys of life; He made the wine to give enjoyment, and yet singularly contrasted were His human and His divine joy. His mother came to Him full of consternation, and said, "They have no wine," and Christ, with calm self-possession, replied, "Woman, what have I to do with thee? Mine hour is not yet come." He felt not the delicacy which He supplied. From this scene we pass to one of grief at Bethany, and there again we find that wonderful repose as expressed in these words there spoken: "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die." He required not of repose? In the requirements of great matters many men are not found wanting. It is when they come to the domesticities of their lives that we see fretting anxiety come upon their soul. Therefore it is that we gladly turn to that home in Bethany, where He went for a quiet rest, and we hear His words on the subject of everyday cares: "Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many

things; but one thing is needful."

If ever we can pardon words of patience, it is when friends are unfaithful. Yet even here there is His perfect calmness. Looking steadfastly into the future He says, "Do ye now believe? Behold the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave Me alone; and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me."

Let us to-day consider, in the first place, the false systems of rest which the world holds out, and contrast them with the true rest of Christ. First is proposed the false system of expectation of repose in the grave. We often hear it said, "There the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest." There is in this a kind of spiritual pantheism, a sort of feeling that God is alike in every heart, that every man is to be blessed at last, and death is but a mere transition to a blessed sleep; that in the grave there is only quiet, and that there is no misery beyond it. The world's peace ever consists in plans to remove all outward trials. We foolishly think if we can only produce a perfect set of circumstances, then we shall have the perfect man; if we remove temptation, we shall have a holy being; and so the world's rest comes to this—merely happiness and outward enjoyment.

The Redeemer teaches us just the contrary. He says, "Not as the world giveth, give I unto you." The world proposes a rest by the removal of a burden; Christ gives rest by giving us the spirit and power to bear the burden. "Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Christ does not promise a rest of inaction, nor that the trials of life shall be removed. No matter what a man's circumstances are, never can the rest of Christ be found in ease and self-gratification; never, throughout eternity, will there be rest found in a life of freedom from duty. The paradise of the sluggard, where there is no exertion, the heaven of the coward, where there is no difficulty to be opposed, is not the rest of Christ.

Many of us are drifting away from our moorings; we are quitting old forms of faith and life and are turning from view to view only to find our souls as far from rest as ever. The unrest is within us; we foolishly expect to find tranquility in outward doctrine when it can come only from calmness of the soul. What do we mean by this rest of Christ? Let us look to those symbols about us in the world or nature by which it is suggested. It is not the lake locked in ice that suggests repose, but the river moving on calmly and rapidly in silent majesty and strength. In creation the rest of God is exhibited as a sense of power which nothing weakens. When chaos burst into harmony, so to speak, God had rest. There are moments when we find ourselves in harmony with all around, when we sympathize with all that is pure and beautiful and holy. This is not stagnation; it is the fullness of life—life in its most expanded form—and when this force is working in a man's soul it is marvelous how it distills into his very words and countenance.

There is a magical power in that prayer wherein we ask of God, "Who alone can order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men, to grant unto His people that they may love the thing which He commands, and desire that which He promises; that so among the sundry and manifold changes of the world our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found." The mind of the man who wrote them was in repose—all is resting of rest.

Unrest in men is produced by (1) suspicion of God, (2) inward discord, (3) discontent. For each of these meekness is the cure. There is no mystery in God's dealings to the meek man, for the secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him, and He will show them His covenant; there is no dread of God's judgments when our souls are meek.

When we have inward discord, we are going on in our selfishness, we are unconquered, and thus refuse to take up that yoke of His. We must make so compromise in talking of the burden of the Lord.

For those of us who are disheartened perhaps the greater part of our misery comes from overestimation of ourselves. We are slaves to vanity or pride. So long as we have a false opinion of ourselves it is impossible for us to realize true rest. Once let a man know for himself what God is, and then in that he will find peace. For God is love, and does not cease to be so because men are low, sad and desponding. It is not in understanding a set of doctrines, or some outward "scheme of salvation," that rest and peace are to be found, but in taking up in all lowliness and meekness the yoke of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If the New York Tribune will stop trying to explain how it happened, we shall be pleased to resume friendly relations with it.

The State of Washington has committed itself to woman suffrage, the electorate of that State having voted on Tuesday for a Constitutional amendment, giving the franchise to women. The old-fashioned men were defeated by two to one. By George! the work goes bravely on. There ought to be a law now forbidding any Democratic man from marrying a Republican woman. We are for peace in the family.

P. S. Later advices convey the discouraging information that the report upon which these observations were based was inaccurate, and that the question of woman suffrage was defeated. Alas! But it was just like the men.

It is now claimed that it was 40-cent bacon that cooked the Beveridge goose in Indiana. Forty-cent bacon would kill almost anybody. The truth is, however, that Beveridge killed himself.

Address of Fox.

Please give me the address of John Fox, Jr., who wrote the "Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come" and "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine." Tell me, also, has either one of these books been dramatized?

An author may always be addressed in care of his publishers. Mr. Fox's home address is Big Stone Gap, Va. None of his books has been dramatized.

"Aimable Dollar."

Was the expression "the aimable dollar" original with Florence, the heroine of the novel?

No. It originated with Washington Irving, who first used it in his sketch, "A Creole Village," which appeared in 1837.

American Folklore Society.

What is the American Folklore Society? What is its purpose and where is its headquarters?

The society was organized in 1888 for the study of folklore in general and in particular the folklore of North America. It is located at Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., is the permanent secretary, and he has charge of the headquarters.

Passports.

How can an American citizen obtain a passport if he wishes to travel abroad?

Passports are granted and issued by the United States Secretary of State and by diplomatic representatives of the United States, also by foreign consuls. The fee for a passport is \$1, and full information as to procedure will be sent on request by the Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

"Dirty Linen."

Who was the author of the phrase, "Let them wash their dirty linen in private?"

This is attributed to Napoleon I., who, when asked to interfere with some "dirty linen in the family," (Let them wash their dirty linen in the family.)

Consumption of Liquor.

What is the annual total consumption of alcoholic liquors in the United States?

The latest statistics at hand are for 1908. The total that year was 3,096,239,408 gallons.

Book on Etiquette.

Will you kindly give the names of some reliable books on table etiquette?

You will find the "Book of Good Manners," by Mrs. Burton Kingsland.

Daily Queries and Answers

Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

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